

HF Happenings

No HF Happenings the past two weeks

The editor has been away from home (and reliable mobile phone coverage) for two weeks. I was part of the team from the SA Armour Museum who participated in the 2015 Stars of Sandstone event at Sandstone Estates about 14 km north of Ficksburg in the beautiful eastern Free State. I drove the Buffel MPV, Samil 100 Gun Tractor, all three Saceren APCs, the Ratel 90 ICV, the T-72 main Battle Tank and the Olifant Mk 1A MBT. There were 35 military vehicles at the event.

I road on the 2 foot gauge (600 mm) railway - the Mountain Wanderer pulled by two Garrett locomotives and a few other trains. Each day we had a military convoy on one of three different routes (and photographers with looooooong lenses) and in the afternoon, a mobility demo with the public allowed to ride on the vehicles afterwards.

The South African mobile phone providers covered certain parts of the farm and other parts by the Lesotho providers. My mobile phone kept showing Lesotho. We were 2 km from the border!



Dennis, ZS4BS, driving the Polish T-72 MBT with Mrs ZS4BS in the turret

The New Radio Regulations

ICASA published the revised Frequency Spectrum Regulations, also referred to as the radio regulations two weeks ago.

The South African Radio League has been negotiating with ICASA for many years to consider power levels and the expansion of the 160-metre band. Both have been achieved. The transmit power level has been increased on most bands to 30 dBW which is equivalent to one kilowatt. The power on shared band such as 30 metres has remained the same.

Unfortunately, ICASA was not prepared to move on the age limit of the novice license or ZU license. Once a ZU licensee reaches 25 years, the license will not be renewed and the person will have to write the Class A examination.

ICASA told the South African Radio League this week that it would give current ZU-licensees over the age of 25 years, 18 months to write the Class A examination.

The South African Radio League made a strong representation to ICASA when commenting on the revised draft but ICASA chose to stick with its earlier decision to restrict the age limit.

The full regulations can be found from a link on the SARL web home page.

The 160 metre band is now 1 810 to 2 000 kHz!! So the South African Radio League Top Band QSO Party in June is going to be fun!

0,1357 to 0,1378 - Secondary - 1 Watt e.i.r.p. - ZS and ZR only

0,472 to 0,479 - Secondary - 1 Watt e.i.r.p. - ZS and ZR only

1 810 to 2 000 - Primary - 30 dBW - ZS and ZR only

3 500 to 3 800 - Co-Primary - 30 dBW - ZS and ZR; 20 dBW - ZU

No 651

South African Radio League * Suid-Afrikaanse Radioliga
1925 - 2015

April 2015

Member Society of the International Amateur Radio Union since 1925

www.sarl.org.za www.iaru.org www.iaru-r1.org



7 000 to 7 200 - Primary - 30 dBW - ZS and ZR; 20 dBW - ZU
 10 100 to 10 150 - Secondary - 26 dBW - ZS and ZR only
 14 000 to 14 350 - Primary - 30 dBW - ZS and ZR only
 18 068 to 18 168 - Primary - 30 dBW - ZS and ZR only
 21 000 to 21 450 - Primary - 30 dBW - ZS and ZR only
 24 890 to 24 990 - Primary - 30 dBW - ZS and ZR only
 28 000 to 29 700 - Primary - 30 dBW - ZS and ZR only
 28 050 to 28 150 - 20 dBW - ZU
 28 300 to 28 500 - 20 dBW - ZU
 29 700 to 30 000 - Secondary - 26 dBW - ZS and ZR only
 40 675 to 40 685 - Primary - 26 dBW - Propagation studies only - this is NOT a new allocation!
 50 000 to 54 000 - Co-Primary - 50 to 52 = 30 dBW; 53 to 54 = 26 dBW - ZS and ZR only
 70 000 to 70 300 - Secondary - 26 dBW - ZS and ZR only
 144 to 146 - Primary - 30 dBW - ZS and ZR; 20 dBW - ZU
 430 to 440 - Co-Primary - 30 dBW - ZS and ZR; 20 dBW - ZU
 435 to 438 - Co-Primary - 30 dBW - ZS and ZR; 20 dBW - ZU
 1 240 to 1 300 - Secondary - 30 dBW - ZS and ZR only
 2 300 to 2 450 - Secondary - 26 dBW - ZS and ZR only (ISM interference)
 5 650 to 5850 - Secondary - 26 dBW - ZS and ZR only (ISM interference)
 10 000 to 10 500 - Secondary - 26 dBW - ZS and ZR only
 24 000 to 24 050 - Primary - 26 dBW - ZS and ZR only
 24 050 to 24 250 - Secondary - 26 dBW - ZS and ZR only (ISM interference)
 47 000 to 47 200 - Primary - 26 dBW - ZS and ZR only
 75 500 to 76 000 - Primary - 26 dBW - ZS and ZR only
 76 000 to 81 000 - Secondary - 26 dBW - ZS and ZR only (ISM interference)

April

1 - Coastal Schools close; 61st Poisson d'Avril Contest
 2 - SARL 80 m QSO Party
 2 to 12 - Stars of Sandstone Festival, Ficksburg
 3 - Good Friday
 3 to 11 - KKNK, Oudtshoorn
 4 - RaDAR Challenge; Two Oceans Marathon
 4 to 11 - Pesach
 5 - Easter Sunday
 6 - Family day
 11 - Autumn QRP Contest
 13 - All Schools open
 17 to 19 - SARL National Convention
 18 - World Amateur Radio Day; Biltong and Pinotage Festival, Stellenbosch
 19 - Closing date May RAE
 22 - Earth Day
 23 April to 2 May - Bloem Show
 25 - HABEX-10 launch
 27 - Freedom Day

May

1 - Workers Day
 2 - Open day at Leeuwberg "The Fall of Berlin"
 3 - ZS3 Sprint
 9 and 10 - AWA Valve QSO Party
 10 - Mother's Day
 14 - Ascension Day
 15 to 17 - Dayton Hamvention
 21 - Radio Amateur Examination
 23 - SA AMSAT Space Symposium
 24 to 28 - Pentecost
 30 and 31 - CQ WPX CW Contest
 31 - SARL Digital Contest; Comrades Marathon

122 250 to 123 000 - Secondary - 26 dBW - ZS and ZR only (ISM interference)
 134 000 to 136 000 - Primary - 26 dBW - ZS and ZR only
 136 000 to 141 000 - Secondary - 26 dBW - ZS and ZR only

There are only two countries in the world with an age restriction on the Novice licence (both in IARU Region 1). In Hungary between the age of 20 and 60, you may not hold a Novice licence. South Africa allows you a Novice licence from zero to 20 years of age.

Why some bands were not increased to 30 dBW

The South African Radio League has received a number of comments and questions about the recent published Frequency Spectrum regulations. One of the questions was why the power was not increased on all the bands. The reason is that, for instance, the 10 MHz band Amateur Radio is only secondary and may not cause interference to other non-amateur stations on the band. Radio amateurs must accept interference from other services operating on the 10 MHz band. On the 40 MHz band, radio amateurs have a bandwidth of 10 kHz. This band is dedicated for propagation research.

On 70 MHz band and several other higher frequency bands, Amateur Radio is a secondary user. Another confusing term is co-primary. This means that radio amateurs share the band with other primary users and radio amateurs cannot claim protection against interference and may not cause interference to other primary users.

Keeping a Logbook

The new regulations are also very specific about the keeping of a logbook for contacts made on the HF bands. Section 16 and 17 of Regulation 23 lay down the details of what should be recorded. No log is required for mobile operation and for contacts on VHF and UHF. A logbook may be kept electronically

(a) the date, time and nature of each transmission, provided that the date with regard to each individual day's operation needs to be recorded only once and for the purposes of this paragraph "time of each transmission" shall mean the time that a specific station is called and the time at which the communication with such station is terminated;

(b) the full name and address of the person making the transmission, provided that the name of the licensee who regularly uses the amateur radio station needs to be recorded only once in the log book with an explicit statement that all transmissions are made by him, except where stated otherwise;

(c) the call sign of every station, provided that it need not be recorded repeatedly for calls made to the station during the course of the communication;

(d) the transmitter power that is used;

(e) the frequency band that is used, provided that it needs to be recorded in the log book only once until a change of frequency to another authorised band takes place; and

(f) the address from where the transmission takes place, provided that such address needs to be recorded only once, should the place of transmission not change.

Operation Approved For DXCC Credit

Sharon Taratula, Administrative Manager, reports that the following operations are approved for DXCC credit:

Cocos Island, TI9/3Z9DX, the 2015 operation

3XY5M - Guinea (current operation)

Please note that Michael, PA5M (3XY5M), will be out of Guinea for a short break in the Netherlands between 8 and 15 April. Therefore, if you work 3XY5M in that period, it is a Pirate. Michael suggests that you always check ClubLog in case you have doubts." Dennis, PA7FM, will only handle QSL cards. Get all the details on QRZ.com.

Elecraft Upgrade

Elecraft has announced an upgrade to the KSYN3 synthesizer boards for the K3 transceiver, visit <http://mldxcc.org/n6tv-k3.pdf> for more information. Not only does the upgrade support high-speed full break-in CW without special configurations or disabling of features, it improves the already top-of-the-line noise performance. With the importance of clean signals being recognised as the necessary complement to receiver linearity, this is a welcome example of state-of-art amateur design.

Interesting historical titbits

The blog *EDN Moments* provides a regular stream of interesting historical tit-



bits, such as early radio transmissions by Popov.

<http://www.edn.com/electronics-blogs/edn-moments/4429598/Popov-makes-early-radio-transmission--March-24--1896>.

On 24 March 1896, he is reported to have sent the words "Heinrich Hertz" between buildings on the St Petersburg University campus. We know much more of Marconi but Tesla, Popov, Fessenden, Loomis, and others all made various advances and contributions as the technology emerged.

Pass the ball!

Alternatively, rather, the multipliers. This is especially true at multi-op teams and is one of the easiest ways to add quite a bit to your score. Make it a habit to keep an eye on whatever means your logging software provides to tell where that multiplier is needed. Then get in the habit of asking the calling station to work your team on other bands. Eventually, you will get a three or four-band pass "all around the horn" and get those mult bells ringing!

Word to the Wise

Muntzing - the practice of removing components until the device stops working as a way of production cost cutting. Madman Muntz was famous for selling TVs for less than \$100 "back in the day" when the usual set cost significantly more. Moreover, it generally lasted considerably longer without a visit from the TV repairman, but let's not quibble.

http://www.analog.com/library/analogdialogue/archives/49-04/RAQ_116.html

An Idea for Clubs

Get radioactive! The Contest Club of Ontario offers the sCCOre Award to its members based on a yearly tally

<http://www.va3cco.com/sccore/sccore.htm>.

All eligible contest scores from January 1 to December 31 count towards the award for that year. Initial sCCOre Awards and endorsements are processed once a year and are cumulative. This is a great way to encourage

and sustain interest and activity - check it out!

Another great yearlong activity enhancer is the "QSO every day" approach typified by the Hampden County Radio Association's Q-a-Day Contest. Whatever you choose to do, keep the fun building by encouraging folks to get on the air frequently. Activity breeds more activity and better operating skills. <http://www.hcra.org/zb/mar15.pdf>

A Technical Portal

You have interested someone in amateur radio through your description of technical adventures on the airwaves. There are many individual specialty websites - here is a new tech portal from the ARRL that opens doors to many ARRL technical resources, even for non-members <http://www.arrl.org/tech-portal>. Its goal is to introduce amateur radio from the techie's perspective while not drowning them with a "ham radio firehose" - at least not right away. Send those proto-hams right over!

MFJ-259B antenna analyser

If your MFJ-259B antenna analyser took a hit or required repair, Tom W8JI posted this set of instructions on calibrating these popular units.

http://www.w8ji.com/mfj-259b_calibration.htm.

Smith Chart software

The free Smith Chart software *SimSmith* is now up to version 11.3. The new software has improved its on-screen markers and plotting functions, sweep functions, and new error and text-editing windows. If you have not tried this software, check it out!

http://ae6ty.com/Smith_Charts.html

African Islands

IOTA frequencies

CW: 28 040 24 920 21

040 18 098 14 040 10

114 7 030 3 530 kHz



SSB: 28 560 28 460 24 950 21 260 18 128 14 260 7 055 3 760 kHz

Reunion Island, FR. Michel, F5PLC will be active as FR/F5PLC from Reunion Island (AF-016) from 16 April to 16 June. He will operate QRP CW mainly on 20 metres and possibly 30 metres. QSL via home call.

Mauritius, 3B8. Mart, DL6UAA, is once again active as 3B8MM from Mauritius Island (AF-049) until 19 April. Activity has been on 40 to 6 metres including 30, 17 and 12 m using mainly CW with some RTTY. QSL via DL6UAA, direct or by the Bureau. Visit his Web page at <http://www.dl6uaa.com>

Mauritius and Rodriguez Islands, 3B8 and 3B9. José, EA5IDQ, will be active as 3B8/EA5IDQ from Mauritius (AF-049) between 10 and 18 May and as 3B9/EA5IDQ from Rodriguez Island (AF-017) between 19 and 23 May. Activity from both islands will be on 40 to 10 metres using SSB and RTTY. QSLs via EA5IDQ, direct, by the Bureau and via ClubLog's OQRS. For more details and updates, see <http://www.dxpedition.eu>

Cape Verde, D4. Alexander, HB9FDT, puts Sal Island (AF-086) on the air from 16 to 24 April as D44TDK. He will be active on 20, 15 and 10 m SSB. QSL via HB9FDT, direct or via the bureau. <http://www.hb9fdt.ch/> <http://www.hb9id.ch/>

Canary Islands, EA8. Special event station EG8TRV operates in the context of the running event TransVulcania 2015. It will be active between 18 April and 9 May on HF and VHF (CW, SSB, digital modes). QSL via EA8URA, direct or via the bureau and LoTW. <http://www.transvulcania.com/index.php/en/>

African DX

Algeria, 7X. Amine, 7X2VB, will be active as 7U7WARD from 17 to 19 April 17 to celebrate World Amateur Radio Day.



Mauritania, 5T. Jean, 5T0JL (F3JL/ON8RA), will use the special call 5T2MM from Nouakchott, Islamic Republic of Mauritania between 17 to 20 April 2015. He will also participate in the CWJF CQ Manchester Mineira Contest on 18 and 19 April. QSL via PY4KL and visit the website at www.qrz.com/db/5T2MM

History this week

Starting Monday 13 April 2015

HISTORY



- 1474 - The Venetian Patent Law, the first of its kind in the world was enacted
- 1611 - The word "telescope" was first used in public by Prince Federico Cesi
- 1633 - Galileo Galileo's second trial by the Inquisition, decided that "the Earth was not the centre of the Universe" was heretical
- 1802 - Richard Trevithick took out his first patent; it was for the first full sized road locomotive
- 1846 - R. E. House patented the telegraph ticker tape machine
- 1861 - The first oil well fire occurred at the Little and Merrick Well at Oil Creek, near Rouseville, Pennsylvania
- 1877 - A steam engine driven helicopter model built by Enrico Forlanini rose 12 m
- 1879 - H. L. 'Estrange does the first OZ parachute drop from a balloon over Melbourne
- 1893 - Edison opens the first motion picture studio in West Orange, New Jersey
- 1894 - Edison displays motion picture 'peep show' in New York
- 1900 - First military (Royal Navy) use of wireless in the Boer War with a distance of 85 km
- 1912 - The Titanic sinks, radio use results in saving many lives. David Sarnoff picked up a message of distress call of the Titanic relayed from ships at sea
- 1912 - American aviator Harriet Quimby became the first female pilot to fly across the English Channel
- 1923 - Lee DeForest's Phonofilm, the first sound-on-sound film, motion picture
- 1926 - The second flight of a liquid-fueled rocket by Robert Goddard

1934 - The highest wind velocity of 371,6 km/h is measured at Mt Washington, New Hampshire, USA

1941 - Igor Ivor Sikorsky made the first helicopter flight for over one-hour in his Vought-Sikorsky VS-300

1956 - The first practical black-and-white video recorder was demonstrated in Chicago

Contest Calendar

This week's contests compiled by Bruce Horn, WA7BNM. The period covered is 13 to 20 April 2015

NAQCC CW Sprint

00:30 - 02:30 UTC 15 April

Mode: CW

Bands: 80, 40, 20 m

Classes: (none)

Max power: 5 watts

Exchange: RST, state, province or country and NAQCC no or power

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with non-member; 2 points per QSO with member

Multipliers: Each state, province or country once

Key Type Mult: 2 x if straight key, 1,5 x if bug, 1 x if other

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults x key type mult

Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 18 April 2015

Upload log at: <http://naqcc.info/sprintlog.html>

Mail logs to: John Shannon, K3WWP, 478 E. High St., Kittanning, PA 16201, USA

Find rules at: <http://naqcc.info/sprint201504.html>

CWops Mini-CWT Test

13:00 - 14:00 UTC and 19:00 - 20:00 UTC 15 April and 03:00 - 04:00 UTC 16 April

Mode: CW

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Op - QRP, low or high

Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: Member: Name and member no; non-Member: Name and state, province or country

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Multipliers: Each call once

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 04:00 UTC 18 April 2015

Post log summary at:

<http://www.hornucopia.com/3830score/>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://www.cwops.org/cwt.html>

R5GB 80 m Club Championship, SSB

19:00 - 20:30 UTC 15 April

Mode: SSB

Bands: 80 m Only

Classes: (none)

Exchange: RS and serial no

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Multipliers: (none)

Score Calculation: (see rules)

Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 22 April 2015

Upload log at:

<http://www.vhfcc.org/cgi-bin/hfenter.pl>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

<http://www.rsgbcc.org/hf/rules/2015/r80mcc.shtml>

NCCC RTTY Sprint

01:45 - 02:15 UTC 17 April

Mode: RTTY

Bands: (see rules)

Classes: (none)

Exchange: Serial no, name and QTH

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 19 April 2015

E-mail logs to: (none)

Post log summary at:

<http://www.3830scores.com/>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

<http://www.ncccsprint.com/rttyins.html>

NCCC Sprint

02:30 - 03:00 UTC 17 April

Mode: (see rules)

Bands: (see rules)

Classes: (none)

Exchange: Serial no, name and QTH

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
 Submit logs by: 19 April 2015
 E-mail logs to: (none)
 Post log summary at:
<http://www.3830scores.com/>
 Mail logs to: (none)
 Find rules at:
<http://www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html>

Holyland DX Contest

21:00 UTC 17 April to 21:00 UTC 18 April
 Mode: CW, SSB, Digital
 Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
 Classes: Single Op - CW, SSB, digital or mixed; Single Op QRP; Multi-Single; SWL
 Max power: non-QRP: >10 watts; QRP: 10 watts
 Exchange: 4X: RS(T) and area; non-4X: RS(T) and serial no
 Work stations: Once per band per mode
 QSO Points: 2 points per QSO on 160 - 40 m; 1 point per QSO on 20 - 10 m
 Multipliers: Each 4X area once per band
 Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
 Submit logs by: 31 May 2015
 E-mail logs to: 4Z4KX@iarc.org
 Mail logs to: Contest Manager 4Z4KX, Israel Amateur Radio Club, Box 17600, Tel Aviv 61176, Israel
 Find rules at:
<http://www.iarc.org/iar/#HolylandContest>

TARA Skirmish Digital Prefix Contest

00:00 - 23:59 UTC 18 April
 Mode: PSK, RTTY, Hell, MFSK, MT63, Throb, ASCII, SSTV, Domino EX, ALE400, JT65, Packet
 Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6 m
 Classes: High; Low; Great; QRP; SWL
 Max power: High: legal limit; Low: 100 W; Great: 20 W; QRP: 5 W
 Exchange: Name and prefix
 Work stations: Once per band
 Multipliers: Each prefix once
 Power mult: high = x 5, low = x 10, great = x 20, QRP = x 30
 Score Calculation: Total score = total QSOs x total prefixes x power mult
 Submit logs by: 16 May 2015

E-mail logs to: (none)
 Post log summary at:
http://n2ty.org/seasons/tara_dpx_score.html
 Mail logs to: (none)
 Find rules at:
http://www.n2ty.org/seasons/tara_dpx_rules.html

ES Open HF Championship

05:00 - 05:59 UTC, 06:00 - 06:59 UTC, 07:00 - 07:59 UTC and 08:00 - 08:59 UTC 18 April
 Mode: CW, SSB
 Bands: 80, 40 m
 Classes: Single Op Mixed; Single Op Mixed QRP; Single Op CW; Single Op SSB; Multi-Single; SWL
 Exchange: RS(T) and serial no
 Work stations: Once per band per contest period
 QSO Points: 2 points per CW QSO; 1 point per SSB QSO
 Multipliers: Each ES region prefix (ES1 - ES0) once per band per mode
 Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
 Submit logs by: 1 May 2015
 E-mail logs to: esopen@erau.ee
 Mail logs to: (none)
 Find rules at:
http://www.erau.ee/images/LL/es-open_rules.pdf

Worked All Provinces of China DX Contest

06:00 UTC 18 April to 05:59 UTC 19 April
 Mode: CW, SSB
 Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
 Classes: Single Op All Band - CW, SSB or Mixed - QRP, low or high; Single Op Field Day Mixed QRP; Multi-Op DXpedition Mixed High; Multi-Op Field Day Mixed Low
 Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 100 watts; QRP: CW: 5 watts/SSB: 10 watts
 Exchange: BY: RS(T) and 2-character province; non-BY: RS(T) and Serial No.
 Work stations: Once per band per mode
 QSO Points: (see rules)
 Multipliers: Each BY province once per band; Each DXCC country once per band
 Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 06:00 UTC 26 April 2015

E-mail logs to: mulandxc@hotmail.com

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://www.mulandxc.org/306>

Nebraska QSO Party

12:00 UTC 18 April to 02:00 UTC 19 April and
17:00 - 23:00 UTC 19 April

Mode: CW, Phone, Digital

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, VHF/UHF

Classes: NE Fixed; NE Mobile/Portable; Out
of State

Max power: HP: >150 watts; LP: 150 watts;
QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: NE: RS(T) and county; non-NE:
RS(T) and state, province or country

Work stations: Once per band per mode per
NE county

QSO Points: 1 point per phone QSO; 2 points
per CW or digital QSO; Bonus: 50 points per
QSO with NEOQP

Multipliers: NE Stations: Each NE county,
state, province, DXCC country once; Non-NE:
Each county once

Power: High: x 1, Low: x 2, QRP: x 4

Score Calculation: Total score = (total QSO
points x total mults x power mult) and bonus
points

Submit logs by: 15 May 2015

E-mail logs to: QCWAChapter25@aol.com

Mail logs to: Reynolds Davis, KOGND, 3901
South 42nd Street, Lincoln, NE 68506-4212,
USA

Find rules at:

<http://www.qcwa.org/chapter025-rules-ne-qso-party-2015.pdf>

CQ Manchester Mineira DX Contest

12:00 UTC 18 April to 23:59 UTC 19 April

Mode: CW

Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Op All Band - QRP, low or high;
Single Op Single Band; Multi-Single

Max power: High: 1 500 watts; Low: 100 watts;
QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: All: RST and continent abbrevia-
tion; CWJF members: RST, continent and "M";
QRP: RST, continent and "Q"; YL: RST, conti-
nent and "Y", Multi-Op, Clubs, Groups: RST,
continent and "C"

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with same coun-
try; 2 points per QSO on 20 - 10 m with dif-
ferent country same continent; 4 points per
QSO on 80 - 40 m with different country
same continent; 3 points per QSO on 20 - 10
m with different continent; 6 points per QSO
on 80 - 40 m with different continent; 3
points per QSO with maritime mobile; 10
points per QSO with CWJF member, YL or
QRP station

Multipliers: Each SA prefix once per band;
Each DXCC country once only

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO
points x total mults

Submit logs by: 19 May 2015

E-mail logs to: cwjf@cqmmdx.com

Mail logs to: CWJF Group, PO Box 410, Juiz de
Fora - MG 36001-970, Brazil

Find rules at: <http://www.cqmmdx.com/rules/>

Michigan QSO Party

16:00 UTC 18 April to 04:00 UTC 19 April

Mode: CW, SSB

Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Op - QRP, low or high; Multi-
Single; Multi-Multi; Mobile Solo Op (LP only);
Mobile Multi-Op (LP only); MI EOC

Max power: HP: >100 W; LP: 100 W; QRP: 5 W

Exchange: MI: Serial no and county; non-MI:
Serial no and state, province or "DX"

Work stations: Once per band per mode

QSO Points: 1 point per SSB QSO; 2 points
per CW QSO

Multipliers: MI Stations: Each state, province
and MI county once per mode; non-MI Sta-
tions: Each MI county once per mode

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO
points x total mults

Submit logs by: 18 May 2015

Upload log at:

<http://www.miqp.org/submitLogFileMiQP.html>

Mail logs to: Mad River Radio Club, c/o Dave
Pruett, 2727 Harris Road, Ypsilanti, MI
48198, USA

Find rules at: <http://www.miqp.org/Rules.htm>

EA-QRP CW Contest

17:00 - 20:00 UTC 18 April (20 - 10 m) and
20:00 - 23:00 UTC 18 April (80 m) and 07:00 -

11:00 UTC 19 April (40 m) and 11:00 - 13:00 UTC 19 April (20 - 10 m)
 Mode: CW
 Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
 Classes: A: Single Op QRPp; B: Single Op QRP
 Max power: QRP: 5 watts; QRPp: 1 watt
 Exchange: RST, 1-letter category and "M" (if EA-QRP member)
 Work stations: Once per band
 QSO Points: 1 points per QSO with same country; 2 points per QSO with same continent; 4 points per QSO with different continent; 5 points per QSO with category A station
 Multipliers: Each EA-QRP member once per band; each country once per band
 Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
 Submit logs by: 19 May 2015
 E-mail logs to: eaqrp_test@yahoo.es
 Mail logs to: EAQRP Contests Investigation Board, PO Box No 17, 16080 Basin, Spain
 Find rules at:
<http://www.eaqrp.com/index.php/actividades/concurso/24-actividades/concurso-eaqrp/71-concurso-eaqrp-cw-bases>

North Dakota QSO Party
 18:00 UTC 18 April to 18:00 UTC 19 April
 Mode: CW, Phone, Digital
 Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6, 2 m
 Classes: Fixed; Mobile; Out of State
 Exchange: ND: RS(T) and county; non-ND: RS(T) and state, province or country
 Work stations: Once per band per mode
 QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
 Multipliers: ND Stations: each state/province and ND county once; Non-ND Stations: each ND county once
 Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
 Submit logs by: 15 May 2015
 E-mail logs to: wOnd@arrl.org
 Mail logs to: WOND, c/o Lynn Nelson, 6940 4th St. SW, Minot, ND 58701, USA
 Find rules at: <http://wOnd.com/ndqso15.pdf>

Ontario QSO Party
 18:00 UTC 18 April to 05:00 UTC 19 April and 12:00 - 18:00 UTC 19 April

Mode: CW, Phone
 Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6, 2 m
 Classes: Fixed: Multi-Single; Fixed: Multi-Two; Fixed: Multi-Multi; Fixed: Single Op - QRP, low or high; Fixed: Single Op CW (Low/High); Fixed: Single Op Phone (Low/High); Rover/Mobile: Multi-Op; Rover/Mobile: Single Op
 Max power: HP: >150 W; LP: 150 W; QRP: 5 W
 Exchange: ON: RS(T) and county; non-ON: RST and state, province or country
 Work stations: Once per band per mode
 QSO Points: 1 point per phone QSO; 2 points CW QSO; Bonus: 300 points for each ON multiplier activated by a Rover/Mobile (at least 3 QSOs with 3 different stations); 10 points per QSO with VA3CCO, VE3ODX or VA3RAC
 Multipliers: ON Stations: Each ON county, state, province and country once per band; non-ON Stations: each ON county once per band
 Score Calculation: Total score = (total QSO points x total mults) and Bonus Points
 Submit logs by: 19 May 2015
 Upload log at:
<http://www.va3cco.com/oqp/submitlog.htm>
 Mail logs to: Contest Club Ontario, 9 White Crest Court, St Catharines, ON L2N 6Y1, Canada
 Find rules at:
<http://www.va3cco.com/oqp/rules.htm>

Feld Hell Sprint
 20:00 - 21:59 UTC 18 April
 Mode: Feld Hell
 Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6 m
 Classes: (none)
 Max power: Standard: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts
 Exchange: (see rules)
 Work stations: Once per band
 QSO Points: (see rules)
 Bonus Points: (see rules)
 Multipliers: (see rules)
 Score Calculation: (see rules)
 Submit logs by: 25 April 2015
 Upload log at:
<https://sites.google.com/site/feldhellclub/>
 Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

<https://sites.google.com/site/feldhellclub/Ho-me/contests/sprints/new-member-sprint>

YU DX Contest

21:00 UTC 18 April to 05:00 UTC 19 April and
09:00 - 17:00 UTC 19 April

Mode: CW

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Lower Bands - QRP, low or high; Up-
per Bands - QRP, low or high

Max power: HP: legal limit; LP: 100 watts; QRP:
5 watts

Exchange: RST and serial no

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with same coun-
try; 2 points per QSO with same continent; 4
points per QSO with different continent

Multipliers: Each YU or YT prefix once per
band

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO
points x total mults

Submit logs by: 4 May 2015

E-mail logs to: yudx@yu1srs.org.rs

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

<http://www.yudx.yu1srs.org.rs/2015/rules.htm>
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ARRL Rookie SSB Roundup

18:00 - 23:59 UTC 19 April

Mode: SSB

Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6 m

Classes: Single Op Rookie; Multi-Op Rookie;
Non-Rookies

Max power: 100 watts

Exchange: NA: Name, 2-digit year first li-
censed and state, province, XE area or DX

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with non-rookie;
2 points per QSO with rookie

Multipliers: Each US state and DC once; Each
VE province once; Each XE call area once; One
DX once

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO
points x total mults

Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 22 April 2015

E-mail logs to: (none)

Post log summary at:

http://www.b4h.net/arrlrr/rr_scoresubmissio-n.php

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://www.arrl.org/rookie-roundup>

Run for the Bacon QRP Contest

01:00 - 03:00 UTC 20 April

Mode: CW

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Band; All Band

Max power: 5 watts

Exchange: RST, state, province or country and
member no or power

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with non-
member; 3 points per QSO with member on
same continent; 5 points per QSO with mem-
ber on different continent

Multipliers: Each state, province or country
once; Multiply mults by 2 if >50 members
worked

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO
points x total mults

Submit logs by: 26 April 2015

E-mail logs to: (none)

Upload log at:

<http://fpgrp.org/pigrun/autolog.php>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://fpgrp.org/pigrun/>

Next Week's Contests

SKCC Sprint, 00:00 - 02:00 UTC 22 April

CWops Mini-CWT Test, 13:00 - 14:00 UTC;
19:00 - 20:00 UTC 22 April and 03:00 - 04:00
UTC 23 April

UKEICC 80 m Contest, 20:00 - 21:00 UTC 22
April

RSGB 80 m Club Championship, Data, 19:00 -
20:30 UTC 23 April

NCCC RTTY Sprint, 01:45 - 02:15 UTC 24
April

NCCC Sprint Ladder, 02:30 - 03:00 UTC 24
April

10-10 International Spring Contest, Digital,
00:01 UTC 25 April to 23:59 UTC 26 April

QRP to the Field, 12:00 - 23:59 UTC 25 April

SP DX RTTY Contest, 12:00 UTC 25 April to 12:00 UTC 26 April

Helvetia Contest, 13:00 UTC 25 April to 12:59 UTC 26 April

Florida QSO Party, 16:00 UTC 25 April to 01:59 UTC 26 April and 12:00 - 21:59 UTC 26 April

BARTG Sprint 75, 17:00 - 21:00 UTC 26 April

A compact rapid-deployment antenna for 20, 30 and 40 m

The SOTABEAMS *Reduced Size Antenna* (RSA) has been designed for situations where a full size antenna is impractical. The RSA is the result of a lot of development work here at SOTABEAMS to find the best balance between size and performance. The RSA works as a magnetic loop antenna on 40 and 30 m and as a more conventional loop on 20 m. Two matching and tuning systems are employed for best results. At the apex of the loop, interchangeable coaxial stubs are used for band changing while at the base of the loop a matching network allows movement within the bands. The base unit is fitted with a BNC socket.

The RSA is a complete system. It is supplied with its own fibreglass mast, a stake kit for supporting the mast, self-adjusting guys for the lower loop corners and pegs. The RSA comes in a neat carry bag.

Apart from its obvious uses as a portable antenna, we think that the RSA will appeal if you have limited space at home, as it will allow you to get on the bands from just about anywhere. Its low visual signature makes it ideal for use in difficult situations. The RSA has been designed for temporary outdoor use. If you want to use it as a permanent antenna, the tuning units will need to be protected from rain.

Specifications

Weight: 825 g

Power rating: 100 Watts

Packed size: L 55 cm W 16 cm

Erected size: Height 3 m Width 3.5 m

Optional Extras

Patch lead: BNC-BNC

Items used with acknowledgement to The ARRL Letter, Amateur Radio Newslines, OPDX Bulletin, 425 DX Bulletin, DXNL DX Newsletter, ARRL DX News, WIA-News, the RSGB News, Southgate ARC News, DxCoffee and the Islands, Castles & Portable Operations Bulletin